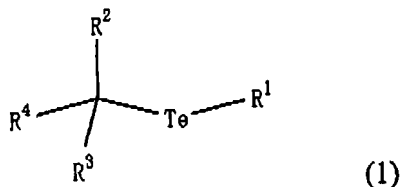


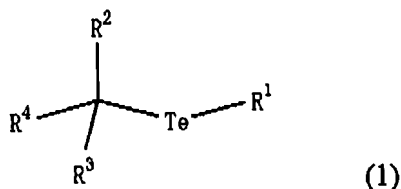
Amendments to the Claims

1. (Previously presented) An organotellurium compound represented by the formula (1)

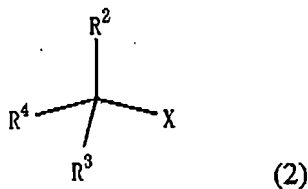


wherein  $R^1$  is  $C_1$ - $C_8$  alkyl,  $R^2$  and  $R^3$  are each a hydrogen atom or  $C_1$ - $C_8$  alkyl, and  $R^4$  is aryl, substituted aryl, aromatic heterocyclic group, hydroxycarbonyl or cyano, provided that  $R^2$  and  $R^3$  are not simultaneously a hydrogen atom

2. (Previously presented) A process for preparing an organotellurium compound of the formula (1) comprising reacting a compound of the formula (2), a compound of the formula (3) and metallic tellurium



wherein  $R^1$  is  $C_1$ - $C_8$  alkyl,  $R^2$  and  $R^3$  are each a hydrogen atom or  $C_1$ - $C_8$  alkyl, and  $R^4$  is aryl, substituted aryl, aromatic heterocyclic group, hydroxycarbonyl or cyano, provided that  $R^2$  and  $R^3$  are not simultaneously a hydrogen atom



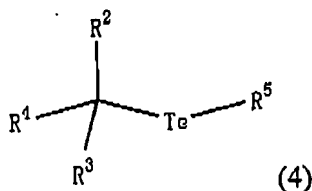
wherein  $R^2$ ,  $R^3$  and  $R^4$  are as defined above, and X is a halogen atom



wherein  $R^1$  is as defined above, M is an alkali metal, alkaline earth metal or copper atom, and m is 1 when M is an alkali metal, m is 2 when M is an alkaline earth metal, or m is 1 or 2 when M is a copper atom.

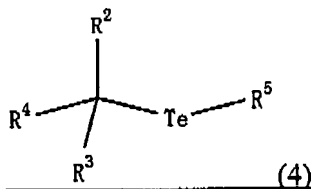
3. (Cancelled)

4. (Previously presented) A living radical polymerization initiator of the formula (4)



wherein  $R^5$  is  $C_1$ - $C_8$  alkyl, aryl, substituted aryl or aromatic heterocyclic group,  $R^2$  and  $R^3$  are each a hydrogen atom or  $C_1$ - $C_8$  alkyl, and  $R^4$  is aryl, substituted aryl, aromatic heterocyclic group, hydroxycarbonyl or cyano, provided that  $R^2$  and  $R^3$  are not simultaneously a hydrogen atom.

5. (Currently Amended/Withdrawn) A process for producing a living radical polymer characterized by comprising polymerizing a vinyl monomer with use of a compound of the formula (4) as a living radical polymerization initiator,

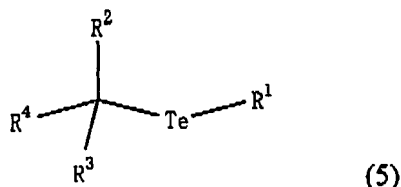


wherein  $R^5$  is  $C_1$ - $C_8$  alkyl, aryl, substituted aryl or aromatic heterocyclic group,  $R^2$  and  $R^3$  are each a hydrogen atom or  $C_1$ - $C_8$  alkyl, and  $R^4$  is aryl, substituted aryl, aromatic

heterocyclic group, hydroxycarbonyl or cyano, provided that  $R^2$  and  $R^3$  are not simultaneously a hydrogen atom.

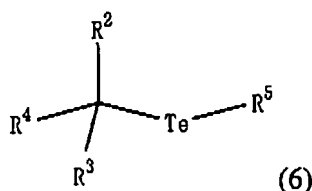
6-9. (Cancelled)

10. (Previously presented) An organotellurium compound as defined in claim 1, represented by the formula (5)



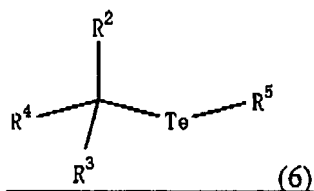
wherein  $R^1$  is  $C_1$ - $C_8$  alkyl,  $R^2$  and  $R^3$  are each a hydrogen atom or  $C_1$ - $C_8$  alkyl, and  $R^4$  is cyano, provided that  $R^2$  and  $R^3$  are not simultaneously a hydrogen atom.

11. (Previously presented) A living radical polymerization initiator as defined in claim 4, represented by the formula (6)



wherein  $R^5$  is  $C_1$ - $C_8$  alkyl, aryl, substituted aryl or aromatic heterocyclic group,  $R^2$  and  $R^3$  are each a hydrogen atom or  $C_1$ - $C_8$  alkyl, and  $R^4$  is cyano, provided that  $R^2$  and  $R^3$  are not simultaneously a hydrogen atom.

12. (Currently Amended/Withdrawn) A process for producing a living radical polymer as defined in claim 5 ~~characterized by~~ comprising polymerizing a vinyl monomer with use of a compound of the formula (6) as a living radical polymerization initiator,



wherein R<sup>5</sup> is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkyl, aryl, substituted aryl or aromatic heterocyclic group, R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> are each a hydrogen atom or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> alkyl, and R<sup>4</sup> is cyano, provided that R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> are not simultaneously a hydrogen atom.

13-22. (Cancelled)